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Paper No. 5

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OFFICE OF PETITIONS

In re Application of Ye Bangce

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Office of Fermions

Application No. 09/912,673 Filed: July 23, 2001 Attorney Docket No. JNB 100 DECISION ON PETITION

This is a decision on the petition filed January 14, 2002, requesting that the above-identified application be accorded a filing date of July 23, 2001.

The application was filed on July 23, 2001. However, on September 13, 2001, the Initial Patent Examination Division mailed a Notice of Incomplete Nonprovisional Application (hereinafter "Notice"), requiring drawings and stating that the filing date of the application would be the date of receipt of the omitted drawings.

Petitioner argues, inter alia, that two (2) sheets of drawings were received by this Office as evidenced by the return-receipt postcard. In support, Petitioner provides a copy of a return receipt postcard acknowledging receipt of the application and two (2) sheets of drawings by this Office.

A review of the return receipt postcard reveals that Petitioner is correct. The postcard acknowledges receipt of two (2) sheets of drawings by this Office. Petitioner also re-submitted the drawings with the instant petition. The Notice was mailed in error and is vacated.

The petition is granted.

No petition fee is required.

The application will be returned to the Initial Patent Examination Division for further processing as a nonprovisional application with a filing date of July 23, 2001 and an indication that two (2) sheets of drawings were present on filing using the two (2) sheets filed January 14, 2002, with the instant petition.

Application No. 09/912,673

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Telephone inquiries concerning this matter should be directed to Petitions Attorney Derek L. Woods at $(703)\ 305-0014$.

Beveriy M. Flanagan

Supervisory Petitions Examiner

Office of Petitions

Office of the Deputy Commissioner

for Patent Examination Policy